

can overcome. In addition to fully funding international programs to combat the virus, we can provide tax incentives through AGOA to leverage private-sector contributions to the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. The AGOA III Act would provide a tax deduction to U.S. firms operating in AGOA-eligible countries when they make a cash donation to the Global Fund.

As I speak with African entrepreneurs, civil society, and the African diplomatic corps, the enthusiasm about AGOA and sub-Saharan Africa's economic possibilities remind me of the excitement of 1960s. But unless all of us work together as we did before—Democrats, Republicans, civil society, and the governments of sub-Saharan Africa—to build a consensus about extending and enhancing AGOA, I fear that this enthusiasm will go the way of our '60s optimism, as genocide, apartheid, civil war, and famine swept over Africa. We have a rare opportunity to ensure that Africa continues to share our markets. We must not let this moment pass us by. I hope that when the Congress convenes next year, addressing U.S.-African trade will be at the top of Congress's agenda.

TRIBUTE TO ROBINSON HIGH
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL KEVIN
MC CARTHY

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robinson High School Principal Kevin McCarthy, who tragically passed away this week at the age of 39. Kevin's dedication to excellence and passion for serving his students, faculty and Robinson High School family will be sorely missed.

After earning two masters degrees and a doctorate, Kevin chose to become a science teacher in 1989. In 1997, he came to Tampa to serve as the science department head at Blake High School.

Kevin's ambition, enthusiasm and record of success served him well in the Hillsborough County School District. He progressed from department head to assistant principal for student affairs at Wharton High School and assistant principal for curriculum at King High School before he became principal at Robinson.

Along the way, he touched the lives of countless students, faculty and parents and left his mark on the schools in which he served. At Robinson, with his love of science, he helped create the MacDill Aeronautical Academy, which gives students the chance to engage in hands-on aerospace training and offers internship opportunities at MacDill Air Force Base.

When gunshots at Rembrandt Garden apartments, adjacent to Robinson's campus, threatened the safety of students, Kevin spearheaded community meetings including local law enforcement and Tampa housing officials to address the problem. Just three months later, a plan was in place to tear down Rembrandt apartments to make way for a new, safer complex.

The Robinson family, however, will most likely remember Kevin's leadership in helping

the campus come to grips with the death of Lance Cpl. Andrew Aviles, a Robinson High School graduate who was killed in Iraq.

Kevin McCarthy was what every school district in America needs—a rising star who sets high expectations for students and faculty and has the talent to help them to meet those goals. All of us who got to know him and work with him were and continue to be inspired by his integrity, energy and intense focus on his students. Kevin was one-of-a-kind and will undoubtedly influence countless others to follow his example in serving the community in many ways.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

IN MEMORY OF PFC. JONATHAN
CHEATHAM

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Pfc. Jonathan Cheatham, of Camden, AR, who died on July 26, 2003, fighting for his country in Iraq. I am saddened by this tragedy. I wish to recognize his life and achievements.

Jonathan attended Camden Fairview High School where he played soccer and the trumpet in the band. Upon graduation in 2002, Jonathan immediately entered the military. Jonathan served in the 489th Engineer Battalion of U.S. Army Reserve.

Jonathan gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a hero, a terrific son, and a courageous brother. My deepest condolences go out to his mother, Barbara Porchia, his sister, Portia Cheatham, family, friends, and those in his hometown of Camden whose lives he touched. I am sure Jonathan was proud of his service to the U. S. Army and to our country. I know he will be missed by his fellow soldiers, and all those who knew him and counted him as a friend. Furthermore, his fellow soldiers also know how much he contributed to the accomplishment of his unit's mission and to the U.S. Army. I will continue to keep Jonathan and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF VIRGINIA DEMMLER

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of an outstanding Nevadan who dedicated her life to the highest ideals of civic life. Virginia Demmler, served the causes of justice and equality throughout her more than 20 years as a resident of Nevada, providing boundless energy, tireless work and inspiring leadership for Washoe County's Democratic Party and other civic organizations.

At the recent memorial service that celebrated Virginia's life, former United States Senator Richard Bryan described her as "the essence of a citizen activist, totally selfless

and committed." Virginia was recognized at "the heart of the Democratic Party of Washoe County," by Mary Connelly, State Director for United States Senator HARRY REID.

Virginia Demmler's service as Chairman of the County Party as its Executive Director set the standard for principled, effective activism. Washoe County's Democrats have appropriately marked their respect for Virginia's legacy by naming their annual Honor Roll Dinner the Virginia Demmler Honor Roll Dinner, where hundreds of her fellow citizens will attend in tribute to her.

As a young woman I became involved in politics and public service in Las Vegas, hundreds of miles from Reno. But Virginia reached out to me to provide guidance and vision that helped chart my course to achieve elected office and to serve all Nevadans with the passion and principle epitomized. I hope my service measures up to her example.

Virginia never shied away from helping a good cause. From Common Cause, to Planned Parenthood, to the American Civil Liberties Union, she served with distinction and was always there for people in need, to right a wrong, and to help build a better state.

Nevada is a better place, and her citizens enriched, because of the life of Virginia Demmler.

VETERAN TRIBUTE FOR STAFF
SERGEANT JOSEPH PENA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions and sacrifices of Staff Sergeant Joseph Pena.

Staff Sergeant Pena served our country during the Korean War in the United States Air Force. He received the Korean Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. Staff Sergeant Pena is also a recipient of the Republic of Korea War Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal.

At a time when we are once again at war, it is necessary to recognize the achievements of these national heroes. Due to their dedication, service, and sacrifice, they deserve our unwavering admiration and our unending gratitude.

Our country often takes for granted the freedoms and liberties our service men and women risk their lives to protect; yet by continuing to honor our veterans we preserve our nation's future by commemorating their past.

Thank you, Staff Sergeant Pena, for your service and sacrifice. You are a true hero.

TRIBUTE TO ZOELSMANN'S
BAKERY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 21, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and pay tribute to a remarkable business in my district. Zoelsmann's Bakery has been serving the community of Pueblo, Colorado for